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EUROPE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

House Appropriations Request FY 2010

Project Name: Secure Open Systems Initiative (SOSI)
Recipient: North Carolina State University
Recipient Address: Office of Contracts and Grants, Campus Box 7214, Administrative Services III

Recipient City: Raleigh
Recipient State: NC
Recipient Zip: 27695

Amount of Request: $4,000,000

Explanation of the request (must include purpose and why it is a valuable use of taxpayer funds):

Open source software is much less expensive than custom design/build software that is used in many military systems. Open source software purchases by the Department of Defense (DOD) can be the source of operational efficiency and reduced cost to the taxpayers. However open source software needs to be tested and trusted. Open source networks run many defense communications and logistics platforms and as the DOD seeks battlefield information using mobile computing platforms and mobile computing communications, protecting these open-source networks will become more important. Enemies can spoof, hack or jam mobile, open source networks and SOSI will help the military to protect their information networks from harm or intentional misinformation. Also, by deploying secure, open-source software, the DOD will spend less money developing and improving software. Today and in the future many of our nation's critical infrastructures increasingly rely on open operating systems, protocols and applications. These infrastructures include Army logistics, communications, power/computer grids, intelligence networks, transportation, chemical production, health and education delivery, etc. As these open systems proliferate they are rapidly becoming targeted for malicious attacks. The Secure Open Systems Initiative is a multi-disciplined research, development and collaboration between NC State University, government and corporate partners whose mission is to proactively help prevent these malicious cyber attacks. SOSI is helping the military protect their networks and reduce software costs to the taxpayer.

In order to offer more opportunity for public scrutiny, I have posted information on each project request submitted to the Appropriations Committee at the time the request was made.

Rep. Brad Miller

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